

**SKIN CANCER PREVENTION
WITHIN HEALTH EDUCATION
(A Resolution of the American Association for Health Education)**

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of professionals in health education, physical education, sport, recreation, and dance to promote and protect the health of the youth of this nation; and

WHEREAS, skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the United States, increasing at an epidemic rate with one in five Americans developing skin cancer,

WHEREAS, the sun's ultraviolet rays are responsible for more than 90 percent of all skin cancers,

WHEREAS, exposure to the sun's UV rays during childhood (up to 18 years old) is estimated to account for almost 80% of a person's lifetime sun exposure,

WHEREAS, adults working with youth have an opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to skin cancer prevention through being aware of the problems and why sun safety education and strategies are important; therefore be it

Resolved, that the American Association for Health Education (AAHE) actively support educational programs to inform pre-K, elementary students, adolescents, parents, caretakers and education professionals about the hazards of UV exposure, its detrimental effects on health and appropriate prevention strategies; and be it further

Resolved that AAHE support school districts in their efforts to develop written policies regarding the protection of students and teachers against increased sun exposure at official school functions; and be it further

Resolved that AAHE encourage sport leaders, coaches and athletes to take leadership roles in acting as role models and encourage the development of healthy sun safe lifestyles and sun safe policies; and be it further

Resolved that AAHE participates in the National Coalition for Skin Cancer Prevention in Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Youth Sports; and be it further

Resolved that this resolution be communicated to the American Association of School Administrators, National Association of Secondary School Principals, National Association for Elementary School Principals, the National Education Association, the American Federation of Teachers, the National Parent Teachers Association, National Collegiate Athletic Association and other relevant organizations.